

Comment 6-1. The National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) concurs that the project as proposed is not likely to adversely affect threatened fish species or adversely modified critical fish habitat. If the project plans change or new information on the listed species indicates a potential adverse effect, further consultation may be necessary.

Response to Comment 6-1. The following text for mitigation measure SS-7 is added to the FMP Final EIS.

SS-7 The annual work plan for FMP implementation will be provided to NOAA Fisheries each year to allow that agency to monitor the types of project proposed.

Mammon-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act

Amendments to the MSFCMA in 1996 require Federal agencies to consult with NOAA Fisheries regarding any action or proposed action that may adversely affect EFH for Federally-managed fish species. For more information on EFH, see our website at "<http://swr.nmfs.noaa.gov>."

**Comment
6-2**

NOAA Fisheries has evaluated the proposed project for potential adverse effects to EFH pursuant to section 305(b)(2) of the MSFCMA. The area affected by the project is part of EFH designated by the Pacific Fisheries Management Council for Pacific Salmon. Based on the information provided by PRNS, EFH Conservation Recommendations are not necessary. However, if the proposed action is modified in a manner that may adversely affect EFH, PRNS will need to reinitiate EFH consultation with NOAA Fisheries.

If you have any questions concerning this consultation, please contact Mr. Peter Johnsen at (707) 468-4063.

Sincerely,


Rodney R. McInnis
Acting Regional Administrator

cc: Jim Lecky, NOAA Fisheries

Comment 6-2. NMFS administers section 305(b)(2) of the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act requiring federal agencies to consult with NMFS regarding the potential of projects to adversely affect “essential fish habitat.” The project area is part of the EFH for Pacific Salmon. The FMP as proposed does not require conservation recommendations but if the proposed work plan is modified, PRNS will need to reinitiate consultation with NMFS.

Response to Comment 6-2. See response to Comment 6-1.